

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
HIDEO TAMAMURA, ET AL.) : Examiner: D. W. Yuan
Application No.: 10/664,873) : Group Art Unit: 1745
Filed: September 22, 2003) : Confirmation No.: 4235
For: FUEL CELL, FUEL SUPPLY) : October 19, 2006
APPARATUS THEREFOR, AND :
FUEL SUPPLY SYSTEM THEREFOR)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Sir:

Applicants respectfully traverse the election of species requirement set forth in the Office Action of September 27, 2006.

A careful review of the specification reveals that the various embodiments are closely related and do not require separate fields of search. Accordingly, neither Applicants nor the Patent and Trademark Office should be put to the trouble and expense entailed in multiple filing and prosecution. Moreover, it is respectfully submitted that the public at large should not be required to obtain and study several separate patent documents in order to have available all of the issued patent claims covering the invention.

Nevertheless, pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. §809.2(a), Applicants provisionally elect the subject matter of Species III, Claims 8-12.

Examination on the merits and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

/Scott D. Malpede/

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